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In conclusion, your petitioners earnestly pray your honourable house to undertake a constitutional reform before it be too late, according to the provisions they have presumed to point out, or in such other mode, as to your wisdom shall seem more effectual for the accomplishment of the important object which your petitioners have in view.

So shall the affections of the people be conciliated: your honourable house retrieve its due weight and influence on the public mind; the internal peace and independence of the country be secured: stability given to the throne, and our liberties, our best inheritance, be perpetuated.

And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

#### GALWAY CATHOLIC MEETING.

*At a most numerous and highly respectable meeting of the Roman Catholics of the County of Galway, held in the County Court-house, in the town of Galway, on Sunday, the 11th of August instant, the following Resolutions were moved by Sir Thomas Burke, Bart. seconded by the Hon. Charles Ffrench, and unanimously agreed to:—*

The Rt. Hon. Lord Ffrench in the chair.

Resolved, That we most cordially concur with, and adopt the resolutions entered into by the general committee of the Catholics of Ireland on the 31st of July last; and that we cannot sufficiently applaud their firm, temperate, and constitutional conduct on the occasion, which rendered expedient their extraordinary meeting of that day.

Resolved, That the right to frame and present petitions for the redress of grievances, to the King and Parliament, is unquestionable, and to us disqualified in so many respects, inestimable, as being one of the few rights of the subject, of which we have not been divested, and as being moreover the effective channel through which our sufferings shall be told, and the unmerited severity of our case placed for redress under the consideration of the crown and legislature.

Resolved, That we consider the recent proceedings of the administration of this country as a manifest attack on this common, unalienable and invaluable right of the Protestant, the Dissenter, and the Catholic, and that the attempt to impede and render it nugatory or impracticable in our case, under the evasions and pretences contained in the late circular letter and proclamation, is a daring encroachment on this

most important and sacred privilege, which the law and constitution has long secured to the subjects of this realm.

Resolved, therefore, That we have heard with sentiments of deep regret and astonishment the late aggression made on the liberties of some of our Catholic fellow-subjects in Dublin, and that we will, to the utmost of our power, by all legal and constitutional means, support and co-operate with them in upholding our common right.

Resolved, That unmoved and uninfluenced by these measures, and convinced that the formation of a committee for the purpose of preparing and causing to be presented petitions for redress of grievances is perfectly constitutional, and, save by perverted and oppressive construction, evidently out of the intent and meaning of the act of parliament, called the convention act, we do now proceed forthwith to appoint a committee for the express purpose of preparing a petition for the total repeal of the harassing and degrading laws which affect us, and of causing the same to be presented early in the ensuing session of parliament.

Resolved, That we nominate for that purpose Sir Thomas Burke, Bart. Malachy Donelan, Christopher Dillon Bellew, John Browne, John J. Burke, esqrs. Hon. Martin French, Philip Lynch, Athy; Hubert Dolphin, Edward Blake, and Robert French jun, esqrs. and that said gentlemen do fully possess the confidence of the Catholics of this county.

Resolved, That on a deliberate consideration of the actual state of public feelings and opinions, of the times and events amidst which we live, of the present dangers and unexampled difficulty of the British Empire, we feel it a solemn duty (without reference to our own peculiar interests) thus to proceed with determined exertion and combined efforts towards procuring the entire and immediate abolition of the unjustifiable, insulting, and most impolitic distinctions, legal and otherwise, which humiliate us, its natives, in this our ancient land; that the speedy restoration of all those rights, liberties, and immunities of which we have been stripped, is a measure indispensably necessary to its welfare and security; that it is at length and fully due to the Roman Catholics of Ireland, whether their title to it is estimated by their long, loyal and patient suffering, their useful and productive industry, their signal contribution to the national revenue, their great

stake in property, and social attachments, or by their numerical weight; the talents they display, their free, faithful and lavish sacrifice of life and blood; their valourous achievements by sea and land, and their eminent enlargement of that military glory which illumines the British ranks, and has encompassed with steady lustre the character of the British seaman and soldier.

Resolved, That we cannot, on this occasion, deny ourselves the cordial gratification of proclaiming the brotherly union, the unreserved intercourse, and social affection, of all and every description of his majesty's subjects in this our extensive county. That with us, religion, pure and uncorrupted by a baneful policy, acts as the promoter of peace, the preserver of harmony. That the enlightened liberality of our Protestant brethren is deeply felt in, and engraven on our hearts, and that no rivalry shall exist between us, save that of an interchange of good offices—a perpetual reciprocity of benefits.

*The following Resolutions were proposed by the Hon. Charles Ffrench, seconded by Christopher Dillon Bellew, esq. and unanimously agreed to:—*

Resolved, That the unanimous and cordial thanks of the Catholics of this county, are pre-eminently due and are hereby given to John Keogh, esq. for his long and successful struggles in their cause, and particularly for his glorious exertions in 1793, when by means of his dauntless spirit, perseverance, and transcendent talent, he accomplished for his brethren the measure of the elective franchise, which first raised them from despondency, and gave them an interest in their country's welfare and stability.

Resolved, That this, our sense of gratitude, be presented to John Keogh, esq. by his colleagues, on that memorable occasion, the Right Hon. Lord Ffrench, and Christopher Dillon Bellew, esq. (at the request of the meeting) as also by the Hon. Charles Ffrench.

Lord Ffrench having left the chair, and Sir Thomas Burke, Bart. having been called thereto.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are due, and hereby given to Lord Ffrench, for his dignified and proper conduct in the chair.

THOMAS BURKE Chairman.

HUBERT DOLPHIN, Secretary.

#### READING MEETING.

*At a numerous meeting of the friends of independence and reform in this town and neighbourhood, holden at the Bear-Inn, on Thursday, August the 15th, the following Resolutions were agreed to unanimously:—*

Resolved, That the best way to have incorrupt members to serve in parliament, is to send them there incorruptly, and that the example set by the city of Westminster, in the election of Sir Francis Burdett, meets with our entire approbation, and deserves to be imitated.

Resolved, That we will never support, by our vote, any candidate, either for the county or for the borough, in whom we cannot place the fullest confidence, that he will represent us faithfully in parliament, on the vitally important question of parliamentary reform.

Resolved, That the late reinstatement of his Royal Highness the Duke of York in the chief command of the army, is an outrageous insult offered to public feeling, and the climax of ministerial audacity, made wanton by impunity; and that the support given to this measure by a great majority of that very House of Commons, whose anticipated sentence of censure, compelled the Duke of York to resign, affords an instance of inconsistency, which, in the present condition of the Liberty of the Press, we forbear to characterize, and is a full proof of the utter alienation of sentiment which exists between the people and their representatives.

Resolved, That our hearty thanks are justly due to our representative, Charles Shaw Lefevre, esq. for the support which he gave to Lord Milton's motion on the subject of the Duke of York's re-appointment, and for the uniform support which he has given to every motion for parliamentary reform.

Resolved, That as soon as the next session of parliament commences, a meeting of the inhabitants of this borough be called, to consider the propriety of resorting to petitions, or other constitutional means for obtaining a more effectual representation of the people in parliament.

Resolved, That the annual public dinner of Friends to Independence and Reform in the town and neighbourhood, be held next year the third Thursday in August, at the Bear-inn, and that the following gentlemen be a committee to advertise and conduct the same.

Messrs. Dickenson,  
Champion,  
Warry,  
B. Champion,  
J. Smith,

Messrs. Charlton,  
Monck,  
Stacey,  
T. Fardon,  
Searle.

J. B. MONCK, *Chairman.*

The thanks of the meeting were afterwards given to J. B. Monck, esq. for his impartial conduct in the chair.

#### CATHOLIC COMMITTEE.

*At a special meeting of the general Committee of the Catholics of Ireland, held at No. 4, Capel-street, on Wednesday, the 31st, July, 1811;*

The Earl of Fingall, in the Chair.

Resolved, That the Catholic committee, having adjourned on the 25th July, to the 19th October, 1811, have, notwithstanding, deemed it expedient to hold an extraordinary meeting on this 31st day of July, in consequence of a communication from government to the Earl of Fingall, dated the 30th instant, to the following effect:—  
“That a privy council was to be assembled to take into consideration the expediency of issuing a proclamation, declaratory of the law, &c. &c.—and likewise of the course to be pursued to ensure its observance.”

Resolved, That this committee, relying on the constitutional right on the subject to petition the legislature, in the way and manner specified in a resolution to that effect, passed at the last aggregate meeting of their body, do now determine to continue and persevere in the constitutional course they have maturely adopted, for the sole, express, and specific purpose of preparing a petition or petitions to parliament for their full participation of the rights of the constitution, and, that in so doing, they not only in their opinion do not violate, but act in strict conformity with its soundest principles.

Resolved, That this committee will never meet under pretence of preparing or presenting a petition, but, for the strict and sole purpose of preparing, and causing to be presented, a petition, or petitions.

Resolved, That the right of petitioning, secured by the bill of rights, is recognized by the 4th and last clause of the convention act, in the words following:—“Provided also, that nothing herein contained, shall be construed in any manner to prevent or impede the undoubted right of his ma-

jesty's subjects of this realm, to petition his majesty or both houses, or either house of parliament, for redress of any public or private grievance.”

Resolved, That the resolutions of the late aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, holden on the 9th of July, having appeared this day in an imperfect state, in a proclamation from government, we feel it expedient to re-publish them.

“Resolved, That being impressed with an unalterable conviction of its being the undoubted right of every man to worship his Creator according to the genuine dictates of his own conscience, we deem it our duty publicly and solemnly to declare our decided opinion and principle, that no government can, with justice, inflict any pains, penalty, or privation, upon any man, for professing that form of christian faith which he in his conscience believes.

“Resolved, That we, therefore, shall persevere in petitioning the legislature for a total and unqualified repeal of the penal laws which aggrieve and degrade the Catholics of Ireland.

“Resolved, That in exercising this undoubted right of petitioning, we shall continue to adhere to the ancient principles of the constitution, and to conform also to the peculiar restrictions which, by modern statutes, are imposed on the people of Ireland.

“Resolved, That a committee of Catholics be therefore appointed, and requested to cause proper petitions to be forthwith framed, for the repeal of the penal laws, and to procure signatures thereto in all parts of Ireland, and to take measures for bringing such petitions under the serious consideration of the legislature, within the first month of the ensuing sessions of parliament.

“Resolved, That said committee do consist of the Catholic peers, and their eldest sons; the Catholic Baronets; the Prelates of the Catholic church in Ireland; and also of ten persons to be appointed by the Catholics in each county in Ireland, the survivors of the delegates of 1793 to constitute an integral part of that number; and also of five persons to be appointed by the Catholic inhabitants of each parish in Dublin.

“Resolved, That it be recommended to such committee to resort to all legal and constitutional means of maintaining a cordial communication of sentiment and co-operation of conduct amongst the Catholics